

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): An electronic camera,
2 comprising:
3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;
5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured
7 by said image capturing unit;
8 a setting unit setting an image capturing condition
9 for capturing the image of the subject;
10 a storing unit storing a plurality of pieces of
11 image forming instruction information used when an image
12 forming apparatus forms a visible image based on the
13 image data;
14 a selecting unit automatically selecting a
15 predetermined piece of image forming instruction
16 information from among the plurality of pieces of image
17 forming instruction information stored in said storing
18 unit, based on the image capturing condition set by said
19 setting unit, the image capturing condition being the
20 image capturing condition under which the subject was
21 captured; and
22 an outputting unit associating the image forming
23 instruction information selected by said selecting unit
24 with the image data, and outputting the selected image
25 forming instruction information in association with the
26 image data.

1 Claim 2 (currently amended): An electronic camera,
2 comprising:

3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;
5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured
7 by said image capturing unit;
8 a shooting mode selecting unit selecting a mode used
9 for shooting from among a plurality of shooting modes;
10 a storing unit storing a plurality of image forming
11 instruction modes used when an image forming apparatus
12 forms a visible image based on the image data;
13 an image forming instruction mode selecting unit
14 automatically selecting a predetermined image forming
15 instruction mode from among the plurality of image
16 forming instruction modes stored in said storing unit
17 based on the shooting mode selected by said shooting mode
18 selecting unit, the shooting mode image capturing
19 ~~condition~~ being the ~~image capturing condition~~ shooting
20 mode under which the subject was captured; and
21 an outputting unit associating the image forming
22 instruction mode selected by said image forming
23 instruction mode selecting unit with the image data, and
24 outputting the selected image forming instruction mode in
25 association with the image data.

1 Claim 3 (currently amended): An electronic camera,
2 comprising:

3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;
5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured
7 by said image capturing unit;

8 an image capturing condition setting unit setting a
9 condition for image capturing performed by said image
10 capturing unit based on status of the subject;
11 a storing unit storing a plurality of image forming
12 instruction modes used when an image forming apparatus
13 forms a visible image based on the image data;
14 an image forming instruction mode selecting unit
15 automatically selecting a predetermined image forming
16 instruction mode from among the plurality of image
17 forming instruction modes stored in said storing unit
18 based on the condition for image capturing, which is set
19 by said image capturing condition setting unit, the image
20 capturing condition being the image capturing condition
21 under which the subject was captured; and
22 an outputting unit associating the image forming
23 instruction mode selected by said image forming
24 instruction mode selecting unit with the image data, and
25 outputting the selected image forming instruction mode in
26 association with the image data.

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): An electronic camera,
2 comprising:
3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;
5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured
7 by said image capturing unit;
8 a shooting mode selecting unit selecting a mode used
9 for shooting from among a plurality of shooting modes;
10 an image capturing condition setting unit setting a
11 condition for image capturing performed by said image
12 capturing unit based on status of the subject;

13 a storing unit storing a plurality of image forming
14 instruction modes used when an image forming apparatus
15 forms a visible image based on the image data;
16 an image forming instruction mode selecting unit
17 automatically selecting a predetermined image forming
18 instruction mode from among the plurality of image
19 forming instruction modes stored in said storing unit
20 based on the shooting mode selected by said shooting mode
21 selecting unit, and the condition for image capturing,
22 which is set by said image capturing condition setting
23 unit, the image capturing condition being the image
24 capturing condition under which the subject was captured;
25 and
26 an outputting unit associating the image forming
27 instruction mode selected by said image forming
28 instruction mode selecting unit with the image data, and
29 outputting the selected image forming instruction mode in
30 association with the image data.

1 Claim 5 (currently amended): An electronic camera,
2 comprising:
3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;
5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured
7 by said image capturing unit;
8 a setting unit setting an image capturing condition
9 for capturing the image of the subject from among a
10 plurality of image capturing conditions to which
11 priorities are assigned;
12 a storing unit storing a plurality of pieces of
13 image forming instruction information used when an image

14 forming apparatus forms a visible image based on the
15 image data;
16 a selecting unit automatically selecting a
17 predetermined piece of image forming instruction
18 information from among the plurality of pieces of image
19 forming instruction information stored in said storing
20 unit, based on a priority assigned to the image capturing
21 condition set by said setting unit, the image capturing
22 condition being the image capturing condition under which
23 the subject was captured; and
24 an outputting unit associating the image forming
25 instruction information selected by said selecting unit
26 with the image data, and outputting the selected image
27 forming instruction information in association with the
28 image data.

1 Claim 6 (original): The electronic camera according to
2 claim 5, wherein:
3 the plurality of image capturing conditions include
4 at least a mode used for shooting, and a condition for
5 image capturing; and
6 the mode used for shooting is assigned a priority
7 higher than the condition for image capturing.

1 Claim 7 (currently amended): An electronic camera system
2 having an electronic camera, and an image forming
3 apparatus, wherein:
4 the electronic camera comprises
5 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a
6 subject, and outputting an image signal,

7 an image processing unit obtaining image data
8 in a predetermined format based on the image signal
9 captured by said image capturing unit,
10 a setting unit setting an image capturing
11 condition for capturing the image of the subject,
12 a storing unit storing a plurality of pieces of
13 image forming instruction information used when the image
14 forming apparatus forms a visible image based on the
15 image data,
16 a selecting unit automatically selecting a
17 predetermined piece of image forming instruction
18 information from among the plurality of pieces of image
19 forming instruction information stored in said storing
20 unit, based on the image capturing condition set by said
21 setting unit, the image capturing condition being the
22 image capturing condition under which the subject was
23 captured and
24 an outputting unit associating the image
25 forming instruction information selected by said
26 selecting unit with the image data, and outputting the
27 selected image forming instruction information in
28 association with the image data; and
29 the image forming apparatus comprises
30 a reading unit reading image data to be formed
31 as an image, and the selected image forming instruction
32 information in association with the image data,
33 an image forming mode selecting unit selecting
34 an image forming mode, which corresponds to the image
35 forming instruction information read by said reading
36 unit, from among a plurality of image forming modes
37 performing an image forming process according to a
38 different condition,

39 an image forming processing unit performing an
40 image quality forming process according to the image
41 forming mode selected by said image forming mode
42 selecting unit, and
43 an image outputting unit outputting image data
44 for which an image process is performed by said image
45 forming processing unit.

1 Claim 8 (currently amended): A method associating
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting
3 the predetermined information in association with the
4 image data, comprising:
5 setting an image capturing condition for capturing
6 an image of a subject;
7 capturing the image of the subject, and outputting
8 an image signal;
9 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based
10 on the image signal;
11 automatically selecting a predetermined piece of
12 image forming instruction information from among a
13 plurality of pieces of image forming instruction
14 information used when an image forming apparatus forms a
15 visible image based on the obtained image data, according
16 to the set image capturing condition, the image capturing
17 condition being the image capturing condition under which
18 the subject was captured; and
19 associating the selected image forming instruction
20 information with the obtained image data, and outputting
21 the selected image forming instruction information in
22 association with the image data.

1 Claim 9 (currently amended): A method associating
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting
3 the predetermined information in associating with the
4 image data, comprising:
5 selecting a mode used for shooting from among a
6 plurality of shooting modes;
7 capturing an image of a subject, and outputting an
8 image signal;
9 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based
10 on the image signal;
11 automatically selecting a predetermined image
12 forming instruction mode from among a plurality of image
13 forming instruction modes used when an image forming
14 apparatus forms a visible image based on the obtained
15 image data, according to the selected shooting mode, the
16 shooting mode being the shooting mode under which the
17 subject was captured; and
18 associating the selected image forming instruction
19 mode with the obtained image data, and outputting the
20 selected image forming instruction mode in associating
21 with the image data.

1 Claim 10 (currently amended): A method associating
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting
3 the predetermined information in association with the
4 image data, comprising:
5 setting a condition for image capturing based on
6 status of a subject;
7 capturing an image of the subject, and outputting an
8 image signal;
9 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based
10 on the image signal;

11 automatically selecting a predetermined image
12 forming instruction mode from among a plurality of image
13 forming instruction modes used when an image forming
14 apparatus forms a visible image based on the obtained
15 image data, according to the set condition for image
16 capturing, the set condition for image capturing
17 ~~condition~~ being the set condition for image capturing
18 ~~condition~~ under which the subject was captured; and
19 associating the selected image forming instruction
20 mode with the obtained image data, and outputting the
21 selected image forming instruction mode in association
22 with the image data.

1 Claim 11 (currently amended): A method associating
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting
3 the predetermined information in association with the
4 image data, comprising:
5 selecting a mode used for shooting from among a
6 plurality of shooting modes;
7 setting a condition for image capturing based on
8 status of a subject;
9 capturing an image of the subject, and outputting an
10 image signal;
11 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based
12 on the image signal;
13 automatically selecting a predetermined image
14 forming instruction mode from among a plurality of image
15 forming instruction modes used when an image forming
16 apparatus forms a visible image based on the obtained
17 image data, according to the selected shooting mode and
18 the set condition for image capturing, the set condition
19 for image capturing ~~condition~~ being the set condition for

20 image capturing ~~condition~~ under which the subject was
21 captured; and
22 associating the selected image forming instruction
23 mode with the obtained image data, and outputting the
24 selected image forming instruction mode in associating
25 with the image data.

1 Claim 12 (currently amended): A method associating
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting
3 the predetermined information in association with the
4 image data, comprising:
5 setting an image capturing condition for capturing
6 an image of a subject from among a plurality of image
7 capturing conditions to which priorities are assigned;
8 capturing the image of the subject, and outputting
9 an image signal;
10 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based
11 on the image signal;
12 automatically selecting a predetermined piece of
13 image forming instruction information from among a
14 plurality of pieces of image forming instruction
15 information used when an image forming apparatus forms a
16 visible image based on the obtained image data, according
17 to a priority assigned to the set image capturing
18 condition, the image capturing condition being the image
19 capturing condition under which the subject was captured;
20 and
21 associating the selected image forming instruction
22 information with the obtained image data, and outputting
23 the selected image forming instruction information in
24 associating with the image data.

1 Claim 13 (currently amended): An image forming method,
2 comprising:
3 setting an image capturing condition for capturing
4 an image of a subject,
5 capturing the image of the subject, and outputting
6 an image signal,
7 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based
8 on the image signal,
9 automatically selecting a predetermined piece of
10 image forming instruction information from among a
11 plurality of pieces of image forming instruction
12 information used when an image forming apparatus forms a
13 visible image based on the obtained image data, according
14 to the set image capturing condition, the image capturing
15 condition being the image capturing condition under which
16 the subject was captured, and
17 associating the selected image forming instruction
18 information with the obtained image data, and outputting
19 the selected image forming instruction information in
20 associating with the image data, in an electronic camera;
21 and
22 reading image data to be formed as an image, and the
23 selected image forming instruction information in
24 associating with the image data,
25 selecting an image forming mode which corresponds to
26 the read image forming instruction information from among
27 a plurality of image forming modes performing an image
28 forming process according to a different condition,
29 performing an image quality forming process
30 according to the selected image forming mode, and

31 outputting the image data for which the image
32 process is performed as the image quality forming
33 process, in an image forming apparatus.

1 Claim 14 (currently amended): An electronic camera,
2 comprising:

3 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a
4 subject, and outputting an image signal;

5 an image processing unit obtaining image data in a
6 predetermined format based on the image signal captured
7 by said image capturing unit, ~~the image capturing~~
8 ~~condition being the image capturing condition under which~~
9 ~~the subject was captured;~~

10 a shooting condition correcting unit correcting a
11 shooting condition for exposure or image quality at the
12 time of shooting;

13 a setting unit automatically setting correction
14 instruction information for instructing a correction for
15 a process performed when an image forming apparatus forms
16 a visible image from the image data, based on the
17 shooting condition corrected by said shooting condition
18 correcting unit, the shooting condition being the
19 shooting condition under which the subject was captured;
20 and

21 an outputting unit associating the set correction
22 instruction information for instructing a correction for
23 a process performed when the image forming apparatus
24 forms a visible image, which is set by said setting unit,
25 with the image data and outputting the correction
26 instruction information in association with the image
27 data.

1 Claim 15 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 according to claim 14, wherein
3 said setting unit sets correction instruction
4 information for instructing whether or not to make a
5 correction for each process that includes at least any of
6 a grayscale process, a color process, and a sharpness
7 process, which are performed when the image forming
8 apparatus forms a visible image from the image data,
9 based on the shooting condition corrected by said
10 shooting condition correcting unit.

1 Claim 16 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 according to claim 15, wherein
3 said setting unit sets correction instruction
4 information for instructing corrections for a plurality
5 of combined processes performed when the image forming
6 apparatus forms a visible image from the image data,
7 based on the shooting condition corrected by said
8 shooting condition correcting unit.

1 Claim 17 (currently amended): An electronic camera
2 system having an electronic camera and an image forming
3 apparatus, wherein:
4 the electronic camera comprises
5 an image capturing unit capturing an image of a
6 subject, and outputting an image signal,
7 an image processing unit obtaining image data
8 in a predetermined format based on the image signal
9 captured by said image capturing unit,
10 a shooting condition correcting unit correcting
11 a shooting condition for exposure or image quality at the
12 time of shooting,

13 a setting unit automatically setting correction
14 instruction information for instructing a correction for
15 a process performed when the image forming apparatus
16 forms a visible image from the image data, based on the
17 shooting condition corrected by said shooting condition
18 correcting unit, the shooting condition being the
19 shooting condition under which the subject was captured,
20 and

21 an outputting unit associating the set
22 correction instruction information for instructing a
23 correction for a process performed when the image forming
24 apparatus forms a visible image, which is set by said
25 setting unit, with the image data and outputting the
26 correction instruction information in association with
27 the image data; and

28 the image forming apparatus comprises

29 a reading unit reading image data to be formed
30 as an image, and the set correction instruction
31 information in association with the image data,

32 an image forming processing unit performing an
33 image quality forming process based on the correction
34 instruction information read by said reading unit, and

35 an outputting unit outputting the image data
36 for which the image process is performed by said image
37 forming processing unit.

1 Claim 18 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 system according to claim 17, wherein

3 said setting unit sets correction instruction
4 information for instructing whether or not to make a
5 correction for each process which includes at least any
6 of a grayscale process, a color process, and a sharpness

7 process, which are performed when the image forming
8 apparatus forms a visible image from the image data,
9 based on the shooting condition corrected by said
10 shooting condition correcting unit.

1 Claim 19 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 system according to claim 18, wherein
3 said setting unit sets correction instruction
4 information for instructing corrections for a plurality
5 of combined processes performed when the image forming
6 apparatus forms a visible image from the image data,
7 based on the shooting condition corrected by said
8 shooting condition correcting unit.

1 Claim 20 (currently amended): A method associating
2 predetermined information with image data, and outputting
3 the predetermined information in association with the
4 image data, comprising:
5 correcting a shooting condition for exposure or
6 image quality at the time of shooting;
7 capturing an image of a subject, and outputting an
8 image signal;
9 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based
10 on the image signal;
11 automatically setting correction instruction
12 information for instructing a correction for a process
13 performed when an image forming apparatus forms a visible
14 image from the obtained image data, based on the
15 corrected shooting condition, the shooting condition
16 being the shooting condition under which the subject was
17 captured; and

18 associating the set correction instruction
19 information for instructing the correction for the
20 process performed when the image forming apparatus forms
21 a visible image with the image data, and outputting the
22 set correction instruction information in association
23 with the image data.

1 Claim 21 (currently amended): An image forming method,
2 comprising:
3 correcting a shooting condition for exposure or
4 image quality at the time of shooting,
5 capturing an image of a subject, and outputting an
6 image signal,
7 obtaining image data in a predetermined format based
8 on the image signal,
9 automatically setting correction instruction
10 information for instructing a correction for a process
11 performed when an image forming apparatus forms a visible
12 image from the obtained image data, based on the
13 corrected shooting condition, the shooting condition
14 being the shooting condition under which the subject was
15 captured, and
16 associating the set correction instruction
17 information for instructing the correction for the
18 process performed when the image forming apparatus forms
19 a visible image with the image data, and outputting the
20 set correction instruction information in association
21 with the image data, in an electronic camera; and
22 reading image data to be formed as an image, and the
23 set correction instruction information in association
24 with the image data,

25 performing an image quality forming process based on
26 the read correction instruction information, and
27 outputting the image data for which the image
28 process is performed as the image quality forming
29 process, in an image forming apparatus.

Claims 22-47 (canceled)

1 Claim 48 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 according to claim 1, wherein the outputting unit
3 automatically associates the image forming instruction
4 mode selected by said image forming instruction mode
5 selecting unit with the image data, and outputs, to the
6 image forming apparatus, the image forming instruction
7 mode in association with the image data such that the
8 image forming apparatus uses, automatically, the selected
9 piece of image forming instruction information when
10 forming the visible image based on the image data.

1 Claim 49 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 according to claim 1, wherein the image forming apparatus
3 is a printer.

1 Claim 50 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 according to claim 2, wherein the image forming apparatus
3 is a printer.

1 Claim 51 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 according to claim 3, wherein the image forming apparatus
3 is a printer.

1 Claim 52 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 according to claim 4, wherein the image forming apparatus
3 is a printer.

1 Claim 53 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 according to claim 5, wherein the image forming apparatus
3 is a printer.

1 Claim 54 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 system according to claim 7, wherein the image forming
3 apparatus is a printer.

1 Claim 55 (previously presented): The method according to
2 claim 8, wherein the image forming apparatus is a
3 printer.

1 Claim 56 (previously presented): The method according to
2 claim 9, wherein the image forming apparatus is a
3 printer.

1 Claim 57 (previously presented): The method according to
2 claim 10, wherein the image forming apparatus is a
3 printer.

1 Claim 58 (previously presented): The method according to
2 claim 11, wherein the image forming apparatus is a
3 printer.

1 Claim 59 (previously presented): The method according to
2 claim 12, wherein the image forming apparatus is a
3 printer.

1 Claim 60 (previously presented): The method according to
2 claim 13, wherein the image forming apparatus is a
3 printer.

1 Claim 61 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 according to claim 14, wherein the image forming
3 apparatus is a printer.

1 Claim 62 (previously presented): The electronic camera
2 system according to claim 17, wherein the image forming
3 apparatus is a printer.

1 Claim 63 (previously presented): The method according to
2 claim 20, wherein the image forming apparatus is a
3 printer.

1 Claim 64 (previously presented): The method according to
2 claim 21, wherein the image forming apparatus is a
3 printer.